

Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DHA-02 /053 W
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R 221222Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2664
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB ICFTU AR
SUBJECT: SPECIAL ICFTU MISSION TO ARGENTINA

REF: EC BRUSSELS 11932

1. A HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU) WILL VISIT ARGENTINA IN EARLY FEBRUARY, ACCORDING TO ICFTU GENERAL SECRETARY OTTO KERSTEN.
 2. AT A MEETING WITH BRUSSELS-BASED LABOR ATTACHES DECEMBER 21, KERSTEN SAID THAT THE DELEGATION WOULD INCLUDE HIMSELF AND OTHER BOARD MEMBERS, PROBABLY FROM GREAT BRITAIN, GERMANY, SCANDINAVIA, HOLLAND, VENEZUELA AND MEXICO.
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3. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT MENTION AFL-CIO REPRESENTATION IN THIS VISIT, IT CANNOT BE INFERRED THAT THIS IS NECESSARILY EXCLUDED. MAKE-UP OF DELEGATION, IN OUR OPINION, REMAINS FLUID, AND WILL PROBABLY DEPEND ON VIEWS OF BOTH THE AFL-CIO AND THE INTER-AMERICAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION, ORIT.

4. AT ANOTHER POINT IN THE SESSION, KERSEN WENT TO SOME LENGTH TO STRESS THAT BOTH ICFTU AND ORIT ARE "COMMITTED TO FIGHT FOR TRADE UNION FREEDOM, FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND AGAINST ALL DICTATORSHIPS IN THE AREA, WHETHER THE GOVERNMENTS ARE LEFTIST OR RIGHTIST, MILITARY OR CIVILIAN." HE SAID THAT THE ICFTU IS COMPILING A LIST OF JAILED TRADE UNIONISTS IN CUBA TOO -- NOT JUST ARGENTINA AND CHILE. HINTON

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